Air Miss on Republic Day rehearsal

*293. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on January, 23rd, the Sukhoi aircraft was just 400 feet from the Air India Jetliner (Minuscule in aviation terms) during the official rehersal for the Republic Day fly past; ,

(b) whether it is also a fact that the minimum distance between two planes is supposed to be one thousand feet; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) For preventing airmiss incidents, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have made installation of airborne collision Avoidance System and Mode'S' transponder in aircraft mandatory. Besides, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already installed Minimum Safety Altitude Warning System at Delhi and Mumbai airports and it is in the process of being installed at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai, Trivandrum and Guwahati airports.

Monopluse Secondary Surevillance Radars (MSSR) have been installed at eight airports in the country.

The DGCA has advised AAI for using standard phraseology while giving instructions to aircraft and ensuring that instructions given to aircraft are read back to confirm that flight crew have received as well as understood the same correctly.

The DGCA has carried out the investigation into the incident that occured on 23.1.2005. A report has been sent to the Ministry of Defence for further action.